

LEARNING DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OVERVIEW FORM

Project title	Humanities and Historical Studies		Project ID No	CLAD – HIST041
Strategy area/theme	Skills and pre-induction			
Start date	October 2006	Completion date	July 2011	
Project type	Learner independence project			
Level		Programme of study		
Aims	The project will result in the creation of a skills suite using WebCT, designed for use in conjunction with face-to-face learning in individual modules as appropriate, or as a supplement to conventional teaching contexts such as seminars and lectures.			
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The 'Skills4Arts' Section in Webct was successfully created for and released to all undergraduates across the College of Arts and Law in October 2008. This Section contains generic and some discipline-specific materials around key transferable skills. A section was also created for staff which contained a 'toolkit' on skills development. The section contains links to external teaching resources, reusable learning objects, recommendations for software and good practice from across the College relating to Skills Development. 2. WebCT Pre-induction pages for IAA, HC and CWAS were created. The IAA pages were available to new first year students from August 2008 onwards and the HC pages were available from August 2009 onwards. The materials have been used throughout the year (WebCT tracking data) up to the present day. 3. Close Reading Exercise Pages were created for English students. These pages were expanded year (09/10) and are being used frequently by students. 			
Overview	<p>The project has successfully assessed the current skills and pre-induction provision. It has gone on to create a complete the generic skills resource Skills4Arts, made available to students in October 2008. In addition, the project has created discipline-specific skills materials in information retrieval, with the collaboration of the library's subject specialists.</p> <p>As the project attempted to engage with specific departments, it became clear that the focus should be shifted from an all-encompassing approach to a narrower focus on specific disciplines and modules, where there were both need for the material but also collaboration on the part of academic staff.</p>			
Further Information	<p>For further information on this project please contact CLAD at University of Birmingham</p> <p>cladprojects@contacts.bham.ac.uk quoting CLAD projects HIST041</p>			